Special and Public Lectures and Courses

SPECIAL LECTURES

Elementary Irish

A course in Irish for beginners is given each year. It is, as a rule, confined to members of staff, students on the College books and graduates of the University.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The Cocker lecture in chemistry

In 2007 the late Professor Wesley Cocker bequeathed a sum of money to the College for the benefit of the School of Chemistry. The income from this bequest is used to support an annual lecture on a topic of public interest related to chemistry. The speaker, eminent in the field of chemical science, is chosen by staff of the School of Chemistry.

The Godfrey Day memorial lectures

The Godfrey Day memorial lectureship was founded by the Board on 9 December 1939. Each year a lecture (or lectures) on a missionary theme is organised. The Board appoints the lecturer on the nomination of the Missionary Council of the Church of Ireland which is at all times advised by the committee of the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission.

The Donnellan lectures

The Donnellan lectures were founded by the Board on 22 February 1794, to carry out the intentions of Miss Anne Donnellan, of the parish of St George, Hanover Square, Middlesex, spinster, who bequeathed £1,243 to the College ‘for the encouragement of religion, learning, and good manners; the particular mode of application being left to the Provost and Senior Fellows’. The subject is presented in not less than two lectures.

The Edmund Burke lecture

The annual Edmund Burke lecture was instituted in 2014 by the Trinity Long Room Hub arts and humanities research institute thanks to a generous endowment from the Fallon family in honour of Trinity graduate Padraic Fallon (b.a. 1969). The lecture was established to mark Trinity College Dublin’s deep connection with the 18th-century philosopher, historian and politician Edmund Burke. This lecture is to be delivered by a leading public intellectual on a topic that engages with current challenges and in doing so keep Edmund Burke’s manifold legacies alive in considering the type of society we want to live in and the traditions, perspectives and values we need to draw on in the shaping of our future.

The E.S. and R. Duthie lecture in microbiology

In 1984 the late Mrs Ruth Duthie made a gift of £1,000 to the College, which she augmented in 1989 by a further £1,000, to fund a lecture to be delivered once every two years, the lecturer to be chosen by the Professor of Microbiology and the Head of Clinical Microbiology.

The Hely-Hutchinson memorial lecture

In 1976 the Earl of Donoughmore, together with members of the Hely-Hutchinson family, endowed a visiting lectureship in memory of John Hely-Hutchinson who established the Professorships of Modern Languages and Literature in 1776 (during his term as Provost). The lectures are given every second year by a scholar or writer of the highest distinction in the modern languages and literature field.
Public Lectures

The Joly memorial lectures

After the death of John Joly, F.T.C.D., Sc.D., F.R.S., Professor of Geology and Mineralogy 1897-1933, a number of his friends subscribed a sum of money to found a series of lectures in his memory.

The John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy

Dr John Kirker (1922-2011), a graduate of the University of Dublin, was consultant neurologist in Sir Patrick Dun and Beaumont hospitals. He was instrumental in the development of clinical services in epilepsy in Ireland. Dr Kirker cared deeply about Trinity. In 2013 his family provided an endowment to fund an annual John Kirker memorial lecture in epilepsy to be organised by the School of Medicine.

The James Lydon lectures in Medieval history and culture

The Lydon lectures provide a platform for a distinguished lecturer to reflect on these issues and to convey specialist findings to a mixed audience of academic specialists, students and members of the public. The series, which is published by Cambridge University Press, is named for Professor James Francis Lydon, Department of History, who died in 2013. The inaugural Lydon lecture was Professor John Gillingham (Emeritus Professor of History at the London School of Economics) in 2014.

The second series of Lydon lectures took place in April 2017 and was delivered by Professor Robert Bartlett (St Andrews), who spoke on the subject: ‘Dynasties: family politics in Medieval Europe’.

The MacNeill lectures

This lectureship was founded in 1970 from a benefaction provided by the Engineering School Trust Fund to commemorate Sir John MacNeill, the first professor of civil engineering in the University. A public lecture is delivered every year by a lecturer appointed by the Board.

The Normanby lecture in microbiology

Founded in 1996 by the Department of Microbiology in recognition of the generous support given to the department by the Dowager Marchioness of Normanby and her family, which includes funding the construction of the Moyne Institute of Preventive Medicine in 1953 and the provision of additional research facilities within the institute since then. The lecture is delivered annually by a research scientist who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of microbiology.

The O'Donnell lectures in Celtic history and literature

These lectures take their name from Charles James O'Donnell 1850-1934, who bequeathed a sum of money to found annual lectures in the Universities of Oxford, Wales and Edinburgh, the National University of Ireland, and the University of Dublin. In the British universities the lectures are on the Celtic element in the English language and population; in the Irish universities they are on Irish history since Cromwell, with special reference to the history of ancient Irish families since 1641.

The first O'Donnell lecture given in the University of Dublin was in 1957.

The Royal Dublin Society lecture

In 1981, on the occasion of its 250th anniversary, the Royal Dublin Society commemorated the College meeting to which it traces its origins by endowing a biennial lecture on aspects of Irish social and economic policy and history with special reference to the contribution of individuals and institutions.

The Schrödinger lecture series

In 1995 the School of Physics, together with the Austrian Embassy and the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies, hosted the first Schrödinger lecture. The lecture series is an annual event
Public Lectures

Public Lectures

commemorating the famous lecture series entitled ‘What is Life?’ given by Erwin Schrödinger in Trinity College Dublin in 1943.

The W.B. Stanford memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1988 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate William Bedell Stanford, Regius Professor of Greek 1940-80, and Chancellor of the University 1983-4. A series of three public lectures is delivered twice every three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board. It is intended that the lectures shall be published.

The John Lighton Synge public lecture

This lecture was established in 1992 from funds subscribed by friends and past colleagues and students to honour John Lighton Synge, F.R.S., M.R.I.A. [Scholar (1916), Fellow and Professor of Natural Philosophy (1925-30), Honorary Fellow (1954-95)]. The lecture is delivered once every two years by a lecturer appointed by the School of Mathematics.

The Hilda and Robert Tweedy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2007 in honour of Mr and Mrs Robert and Hilda Tweedy by Dr Jean M. Tweedy Walker, a Trinity alumna and daughter of Hilda and Robert. It consists of biennial lectures alternatively addressing peace, gender and human rights, and environmental issues. These topics reflect long-time interests of Hilda and Robert Tweedy.

The H.O. White memorial lectures

These lectures were founded in 1964 from funds provided by subscription to commemorate Herbert Martyn Oliver White, Professor of English Literature 1939-60. A public lecture is delivered every two or three years by a lecturer appointed by the Board and is followed by a seminar for senior students in English literature.

The White social policy lecture series

This lecture series was established in 2004 from funds given by Tony White, former student of the College, to honour Emeritus Senior Lecturer in Social Policy, Anthony Coughlan.

PUBLIC LECTURES IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Mary Louisa Prentice Montgomery lectures in ophthalmology

The John Mallet Purser lectures

The Frederick Price lectures

The T.J.D. Lane lectures

For details see FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES.

PUBLIC LECTURES

The following public lectures were held during the academic year 2016-17.

TRINITY MONDAY DISCOURSE


MICHAELMAS TERM

Professor Alastair Ager: ‘Faith, secularism and humanitarian engagement’

Professor Ivana Bacik, Mark Daly, David Norris, Lynn Ruane: ‘Discussion of the Irish Sign Language Recognition Bill’

Margaret Beafort, Professor Michael Bongardt, Dr Amy Daughton, Professor Johan de Tavernier, Professor Markus Duewell, Professor Alexandra Grieser, Professor Damien Janos, Professor Maureen Junker-Kenny, Sr Collette Kane, Professor Cathriona Russell: ‘Religion(s), as part of education'
Public Lectures

Dr Roisin Blunnie, Dr Con Casey, Dr James Harpur, Dr Michael Kirwan, Professor Gillian Wylie: ‘Violence and the human condition’

Dr Cathy Bolleart: ‘Considering the impact of culture, worldview and mobility on inter-group relations in Europe: insights from post-apartheid South Africa’

Kevin Cawley: ‘In the name(s) of God: the missiological quest for equivalence in East Asia’

Dr Michael Flood: ‘Engaging men and boys in preventing men’s violence against women: progress and challenges’

Professor Stephen Gordon: ‘On the shoulders of giants: TB as a One Health paradigm’

Chloé Grieser, Professor Damien Janos, Professor Maureen Junker-Kenny, Professor Cathriona Russell: ‘Religion in public: great speeches’

Peter Ho: ‘Complexity and good governance: the Singapore experience’

Dr Isabella Jackson: “A revolution is not a dinner party”: the 1911 Chinese Revolution in the context of the 1916 Rising’

Professor Nicholas Johnson, Professor David Shepherd: ‘Dueling Davids-Experiments in literary translation’

Kai Kajitani: ‘Current developments in the East Asian and Chinese economies’

Professor Lorraine Leeson: ‘Being offensive in Irish Sign Language’

Professor Lorraine Leeson, Haaris Sheikh, Lucia Venturi: ‘Conceptualisation in ISL’

Professor Tony Maxwell: ‘Supercoils and superbugs: exploiting DNA topoisomerases as targets for antibacterial chemotherapy’

Professor V. Nagaraja: ‘How do we tackle the resurgent tubercle bacillus?’

Professor Cliona O’Farrelly: ‘Genes and immune armour: why do some people ‘never get sick’?’


Marco Politi: ‘Pope Francis among the wolves’

Dr Christian Riedel: ‘Analysis of host-microbe interactions at the mucosal epithelium using ex vivo differentiated primary macrophages’

Dr John Scally: ‘Ethics and sport’

Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd: ‘Beyond rainbow-ism in South Africa: a restitutional reading of the ‘black Christ’

Professor Miguel Viveiros: ‘New technologies and therapeutic approaches to control MDR and XDR-tuberculosis: an urgent concerted action!’

Till Weingärtner Rakugo: ‘Traditional storytelling in contemporary Japan’

HILARY TERM

Lawrence Barsalou: ‘What does semantic tiling of the cortex tell us about semantics?’

Nuala Brady: ‘The perception of hand pointing’

Dr Cornelius Casey, Professor Fáinche Ryan: ‘The Book of Kells – a resource for Christian faith’

Magdalena Chechlacz: ‘Individual differences in visual attention: from genes and brain organization to clinical consequences’

Dr Margaret Daly-Denton: ‘Supposing Him to be the gardener (20:15) reading John’s Gospel from an ecological perspective’

Liam Delaney: ‘Self-control, present bias, and well-being: evidence from day reconstruction studies’

Professor Jonathan Evershed: ‘Post-truth, politics and peace-building during the Decade of Centenaries’

Professor Jude Lal Fernando, ‘Syria: the local and the global’

Dr Ciaran Finn: ‘A second wave of SPI1 secretion activity contributes to the cytosolic phase of Salmonella epithelial cell infection’

Dr Fidelma Fitzpatrick: ‘Can we ever turn the antibiotic resistance tide? – the role of epidemiology and healthcare policy in prevention of resistance’

Birte Forstmann: ‘Strategic decision-making in the human subcortex measured with ultra-high resolution magnetic resonance imaging’
Public Lectures

Dr Nicole Hansmeier, Dr Thamarai Schneiders: ‘Intrinsic regulation of microbial permeability and virulence in Klebsiella pneumoniae’

Dr Sophie Helaine: ‘Salmonella forms intracellular persisters with TacT’

Professor David Hempton: ‘Religion and political culture in the United States’

Professor Colin Hill: ‘Bacteriophages; a story of Nobel prizes, Stalinesque purges, cheddar cheese, and new opportunities for medical research’

Professor Maria Iacovou: ‘Becoming visible: the urban landscape of the priest-kings of Ancient Paphos: a decade of excavations by the University of Cyprus at Palaepaphos’

Dr Isabella Jackson: ‘Years of the Rooster through the twentieth century’

Dr Isabella Jackson, Dr Adrian Tien, Dr Heidi Wang-Kaeding: ‘China in the Year of the Rooster’

Professor Jan Joosten: ‘Reading God’s word in translation: the septuagint in historical, philological and theological perspective’

Professor Jan Joosten: ‘Language, exegesis and creative writing in chronicles’

Dr Giada Lagana: ‘The EU and the Northern Ireland peace process: a historical perspective’

Francesca La Morgia: ‘Raising bilingual children: what every parent needs to know’

Professor Mary Lawlor: ‘Defending human rights defenders’

Bertram Malle: ‘Do people apply different morals to social robots?’

Rachel Mapson: ‘Interpreting as rapport management: influences and strategies for reflecting im/politeness’

Professor Kingston Mills: ‘Vaccines - benefits, risks, myths and the Trump effect’

Professor Bruce Morrill: ‘Liturgy’s humility: service from and to Christian poverty of spirit’

Professor James Murray: ‘The fountain of youth: autophagy and ageing-related diseases’

Kevin Pelfrey: ‘Towards precision treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder(s)’

Professor Daniele Pevarello, Professor David Shepherd: ‘Religion and education in Antiquity’

Mary Redfern: ‘A timely passion for ‘printed things’: Chester Beatty’s collection of Surimono prints’

Professor Fáinche Ryan: ‘Aquinas and analytic philosophy’

Professor Fáinche Ryan: ‘Luther 500 years of the Reformation - the Reformation 1517-2017’

Professor David Shepherd: ‘Reading the new testament as second temple literature’

Victoria Simms: ‘Early mathematical development: do numerical representations count?’

Ruth Starr: ‘Seizo Sugawara, Eileen Gray’s enduring collaborator’

Dr Rizal Sukma: ‘Briefing on Indonesia’

Professor Alan Taylor: ‘Transforming North America: natives, settlers, empires, and Republics in the wake of revolution’

Professor Elaine Wainwright: ‘Inaugural Sean Freyne memorial lecture’

Dr Fiona Walsh: ‘Antimicrobial resistance and One Health’

Professor Ben Witherington: ‘The ethics of Jesus revisited’

Dr Will Wootton: ’Unfinished works: Roman art in action’

TRINITY TERM

Dr Cormac Gahan: ‘Microbe-host crosstalk through bile acid signalling in health and disease’